

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 00162 290421Z  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 DHA-02 OMB-01 /070 W  
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R 290340Z JAN 77  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7620  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
CINCPAC FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 0162

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SOPN PROP MILI LA VN US  
SUBJECT: LAO PRESS RECOUNTS LAO VERSION OF "LAM SON 719" OPERATION

1. DURING THE PERIOD JANUARY 19-24, THE LAO INFORMATION KMINISTRY DAILY BULLETIN PUBLISHED A SERIES OF THREE ARTICLES ON THE 1971 "LAM SON 719" OPERATION. THE ARTICLES EMPHASIZED THE CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE LAO, VIETNAMESE AND CAMBODIAN PEOPLES, ESPECIALLY THE "INTIMATE UNION" BETWEEN THE LAO AND VIETNAMESE, WHICH "ALLOWED THE BLOCKING OF THE LAM SON 719 OPERATION."

2. THE ARTICLES ALLEGED THAT DURING THE OPERATION THE LAO ARMY AND PEOPLE SHOT DOWN 496 AMERICAN PLANES AND CAPTURED 1,000 OF THE ENEMY. THEY ADDED THAT THE VICTORY OF THE "PATRIOTIC FORCES" IN BLOCKING THE LAM SON 719 OPERATION IN 1971 AND THE "KOU KIET" OPERATION IN THE PLAIN OF JARS 1969-70, "OBLIGED THE AMERICAN IMPERIALISTS AND THEIR LACKEYS TO MODIFY THEIR STRATEGY, MOVING FROM THE OFFENSIVE TO THE DEFENSIVE."  
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PAGE 02 VIENTI 00162 290421Z

3. COMMENT: THE ARTICLES WERE PUBLISHED AT THE TIME OF THE CELEBRATION OF LAO PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY DAY, JANUARY 20, AND AT A TIME WHEN THE LPLA IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY DEPENDENT UPON THE PAVN IN BATTLING THE LAO INSURGENCY.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
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